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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Case No. 01-1727)

In the Application of:	)	
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Risto Mäkipää	)	Examiner: Unknown
	)	
Serial No. Unknown	)	
	)	
Filed: November 28, 2001	)	Group Art Unit: Unknown
	)	
Title: Method OF Billing Services, Server And Telecommunication System	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the claims as follows before calculating the application filing fee. The claim amendments below are made to the claims as amended by the applicant during International Phase Chapter II.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Cancel claims 1-27 from the application without prejudice.

Add the following new claims 28-54 to the application:

28. (New) A method of billing services in a communications system, which comprises servers of service providers and billing servers, which provide billing services, comprising  
address data and service attributes of billing services are transmitted in an advertising message over a data transfer network to the service provider's server, the service provider's server selects one billing service from among advertised billing servers for the billing transaction of a client according to the parameters given by the client and said service attributes, or offers advertised billing services for the client to select the service provider's server initiates the billing transaction with the billing server of the selected billing service by means of said address data and service attributes.

29. (New) A method according to claim 28, wherein said advertising message is sent in response to a billing service request which the service provider's server has sent to the telecommunication network and which may include desired service attributes.

30. (New) A method according to claim 29, wherein the billing service request is sent in response to billing parameters which the client gives when purchasing the service.

31. (New) A method according to claim 28, wherein the billing transaction is performed according to the digital payment or billing protocol supported by the selected billing server.

32. (New) A method according to claim 28, wherein the billing transaction is performed after handshaking and controlled by the billing server selected.

33. (New) A method according to claim 28, wherein the billing software of the service provider's server is limited to software which enables tracking and selection of a suitable billing server, handshaking with the selected billing server and functioning as a party in a payment or billing procedure supported by the billing server.

34. (New) A method according to claim 28, wherein the service provider's server configures with the payment or billing protocol supported by the billing server on the basis of said service attributes received in the advertising message and/or on the basis of the data, files or software received from the billing server after handshaking.

35. (New) A method according to claim 28, wherein the selected billing server is responsible for verifying the client and the service provider and makes the payment to the service provider.

36. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the billing server collects the client's service payments it has made to different service providers and bills the client for them in a combined invoice at suitable intervals.

37. (New) A method according to claim 36, wherein the client's service payments are billed in a service invoice of a telecommunications operator or a similar body with which the client has a service agreement.

38. (New) A method according to claim 37, wherein the client's network address, telephone number or another identifier the client has received as a result of said service agreement is used as the client's identifier.

39. (New) A communications system which comprises client devices, servers of service providers and billing servers, which provide billing services, wherein the billing server or a separate directory server is arranged to transmit address data and service attributes of billing services to the service provider's server in an advertising message, the service provider's server is arranged to select one billing service from among the advertised billing servers for the billing transaction of a client according to the parameters given by the client or said service parameters or offer advertised billing services for the client to select, the service provider's server is arranged to initiate the billing transaction with the billing server of the selected billing service by means of said address data and service attributes.

40. (New) A system according to claim 39, wherein the selected billing server is responsible for verification of the client and the service provider and makes payment to the service provider.

41. (New) A system according to claim 40, wherein the billing server collects the client's service payments it has made to different service providers and bills the client for them in a combined invoice at suitable intervals.

42. (New) A system according to claim 40, wherein the billing server belongs to a telecommunications operator or a similar body with which the client has a service agreement and adds the payments made to an invoice in accordance with the service agreement.

43. (New) A system according to claim 42, wherein the billing server uses the client's network address, telephone number or another identifier the client has received as a result of said service agreement as the client's identifier.

44. (New) A server of a service provider in a communications system, which comprises client devices, servers of service providers and billing servers, which provide billing services, wherein for the billing transactions of clients the server uses billing services the address data and service attributes of which the server has received in advertising messages transmitted to the server, the server is arranged to select one billing service from among the advertised billing servers for the billing transaction of a client on the basis of the parameters given by the client and said service attributes or offer advertised billing services for the client to select, the server is arranged to initiate a

billing transaction with the billing server of the selected billing service by means of said address data and service attributes.

45. (New) A server according to claim 44, wherein the server requests an advertising message by sending a billing service request which may include desired service attributes.

46. (New) A server according to claim 44, wherein the server performs the billing transaction according to the digital payment or billing protocol supported by the selected billing server and that the billing servers control this.

47. (New) A server according to claim 44, wherein the server's billing software is limited to software which enables tracking and selection of a suitable billing server, handshaking with the selected billing server and functioning as a party in the payment or billing procedure supported by the billing server.

48. (New) A server according to claim 44, wherein the server configures with the payment or billing protocol supported by the billing server on the basis of said service attributes received in the advertising message and/or on the basis of the data, file or software obtained after handshaking.

49. (New) A method of billing services in a communications system, which comprises servers of service providers and billing servers, which provide billing services, comprising  
the address data and service attributes of the billing services are transmitted in an advertising message to the service provider's server over a telecommunication network, employing said address data and service attributes the service provider's server generates an electronic invoice form which corresponds to the requirements of a billing service, the service provider's server adds its address and billing data and a link to the billing server of said billing service to the electronic invoice form, the service provider's server transfers said electronic invoice form to a client device in response to a purchase transaction initiated by a client, the client adds his billing data to said invoice form, the invoice form filled in is transferred to the billing server indicated by said link, the billing server makes payment from the client to the service provider, possibly communicating with the client device, the billing server sends an acknowledgement of the payment made to the client and/or the service provider's server.

50. (New) A method according to claim 49, comprising said acknowledgement is sent to the client device as an electronic page which includes a link to the purchased service on the service provider's server, the client places the actual order by activating said link to the service, the service provider's server checks whether an acknowledgement related to this order has been received from the billing server, and if this is the case, the server supplies the ordered service.

51. (New) A method according to claim 49, wherein said electronic form and electronic page are implemented as World Wide Web pages or as Wireless Application Protocol pages.

52. (New) A method according to claim 49, wherein the service provider's server downloads said electronic form from the billing server by means of said address data and service attributes or generates an electronic invoice form by means of said service attributes.

53. (New) A server of a service provider in a telecommunication system, which comprises client devices, servers of service providers and billing servers, which provide billing services, wherein for the billing transactions of clients the server uses the billing services the address data and service attributes of which the server has received in advertising messages transmitted to it, the server is arranged to utilize said address data and service attributes to generate or download an electronic invoice form which corresponds to the requirements of a billing service and transfer said electronic invoice provided with its own billing information and a link directed to said billing service or transfer said electronic invoice provided with the address of the billing service to the client device for the client to fill in and for forwarding to said billing service.

54. (New) A server according to claim 53, wherein the server supplies the purchased service after it has received information on payment of the invoice from the billing server and/or the client device.

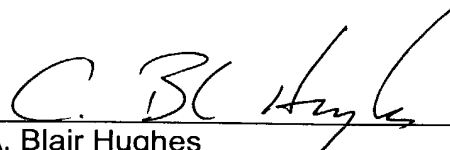
#### **Remarks**

Claims 28-54 are pending in the application. The claims have been amended to correct improper use of multiple dependent claims and to clarify the Applicant's

invention. No new matter has been added to the application by way of these claim amendments.

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